

establishment of a branch of the Athenian Archaeological Society in London; but from no official authority to act having been forwarded by the committee of management, this was found to be difficult. The state of the Athenian Society was, however, communicated to Colonel Leake, who, with his usual promptness and liberality in aiding the cause of Greece, immediately sent the society a subscription of 500 drs. (18*l.*) As it is probable that many admirers of ancient art may be inclined to support this useful institution, I have ventured to send you this long statement of its affairs and proceedings.

It must be observed that the archaeological commission, charged with the publication of the *Ephe-meris Archaeologica*, in which the ancient inscriptions are printed, is not a part of this society. It consists of persons employed by government, though several members of the commission have been elected also members of the committee of management of the society, from possessing the requisite qualification for the office in the highest degree. All members of the Archaeological Society are, however, entitled to receive the journal of the commission at a moderate price.

I shall not recapitulate the most remarkable discoveries which have been made in the Greek provinces. An excavation made by the late General Gordon at the Heræum, near Argos, at which I was present, brought to light two interesting fragments—a portion of a marble peacock and a large fragment of a pæfict of terra-cotta, painted as a peacock's tail. Several trifles in terra-cotta and bronzes were likewise found, and an extended excavation at this place would probably yield important results. At Delphi several fragments of the great temple, which it was supposed had entirely disappeared, were accidentally discovered; a small temple was also found, and the late Professor Müller made an excavation into the ancient treasury under the cells of the great temple.

A considerable collection of ancient statues from all parts of Greece has been assembled in the Temple of Theseus, several of them belonging to the first school of art, and rendering this little museum of great interest to antiquaries, and worthy of a visit from all admirers of classic sculpture.

One of the most curious monuments in the collection is the figure of a warrior in low relief, rather above the natural size, and executed with a degree of stiffness, which shews far more affinity to the style of the Egean marbles than to the Attic school of Phidias. Its antiquity, and the visible traces of the painting with which it was adorned, give it great value. This curious piece of sculpture was found at a place called Velanideza, on the coast of Attica, two or three miles to the south of Araphen (Rafina), between Halie and Prasine, in the year 1839. An ancient demos existed in this plain, and near it there were forty or fifty unopened tumuli, which had excited the attention of several antiquaries. It is said that a society of excavators received permission to open these tumuli, but I have never been able to obtain any exact information on the subject, though I have applied directly to Mr. Pittakis; and Professor Ross was also as unsuccessful as I was. Much mystery attended the whole proceedings, for the Greek government has generally been extremely averse to all private excavations, and General Gordon was requested to discontinue his at the Heræum; I suppose that many of the vases offered to travellers for sale, in 1839, were from Velanideza. Mr. Pittakis has published no account of these excavations, and the Archaeological Society took no notice of them, as it is dangerous for a body wishing to live in peace with all men to attempt penetrating where there is mystery. No account of these excavations has appeared in the Annals of the Archaeological Institute at Rome; and the only knowledge the world possesses of them, is the singular work of Aristocles, which we have noticed; this, however, is the best preserved monument of the most ancient style of Greek art when it began to rise towards perfection.

THE QUEEN'S COLLEGE AT BIRMINGHAM.—The ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of the Queen's College of Medicine at Birmingham took place on Friday, August 18, in the presence of a numerous assemblage of the inhabitants of the town, together with a large body of students.

NEW CHAPEL, UPPER CHELSEA.—On Wednesday week, the first stone of the new chapel in Turk's-row, in the parish of Upper Chelsea, was laid by the Hon. Sir Edward Paget, G.C.B. governor of Chelsea Hospital, who officiated in the absence of the Earl of Cadogan, the lord of the manor.

BIRMINGHAM.—A new workhouse is about to be built here; the cost is estimated by some as likely to reach 50,000*l.*; but we should suppose half that amount would well suffice. The design will, no doubt, be the subject of a competition.

Legislation.

ASSESSED TAXES CASES.

Determined by the Judges on Appeal.

(No. 1480).—Windows.—Drelling-house.—Due Assessment in 1834-5.—Effect of want of.

Appellant was charged in 1840 for sixteen windows, having been assessed for the year ending 5th April, 1835, for ten only, and having opened four new ones since. The commissioners reduced the charge for 1840 to twelve: being of opinion that having opened the four on the faith of the statute, he was exempt for them: Held, that the determination of the commissioners was wrong.

At an adjourned meeting of the commissioners, acting for the borough of Wigan, in the county of Lancaster, in execution of the acts granting the duties of assessed taxes, held the 17th September, 1840, for hearing appeals against the first assessment of the said duties for the year 1840, ending the 5th of April, 1841 (48 Geo. 3, c. 55, s. 4, c. 54, s. 7, he has opened four windows. The commissioners being of opinion, that the appellant had opened four windows on the faith of the privilege granted by the 4 & 5 Will. 4, c. 54, relieved him from the charge, by reducing the number to twelve, thereby adding to the ten windows assessed in 1834, the two windows omitted to be charged in that year. The surveyor contended, that as the appellant, according to his own statement, had not been duly assessed in 1834, he was not, in his opinion, entitled to be relieved from the four windows he had opened in pursuance of the said act, and requested that the case be stated for the opinion of the judges.

Witness our hands this 4th day of February, 1841.

WILLIAM LAMB.

BENJAMIN POWELL.

18th May, 1841.—We are of opinion that the determination of the Commissioners is wrong.

J. PATTISON. T. COLTMAN. W. WIGHTMAN.
—Justice of the Peace.

POMPEIAN PAPER-HANGINGS.

Mr. Butler's Observations on the Remarks of B. A. D.

No doubt the decorations were very finely drawn, and aptly designed to illustrate the history of the people and times in which they were executed: they were not copied from remains explored by them, they were original designs, and referred to their then existing manners, habits, customs, and religion; therefore how can they be appropriate or anywise consistently apply in the present day; what have we to do with pagan altars and sacrifices, Italian vases and mythological absurdities?

Paper-hangings, and every other kind of decoration, whether in our manufactures or architecture, should be the index to our state of civilization; the same resources of design exist now as ever existed. How will posterity be able to distinguish us, or know how to class us, when our letter-press documents are belied by our architectural and other remains?

JAMES BUTLER.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—In your last week's number, at the bottom of page 309, is a recipe for Cistern Cement; can you give or obtain a more particular description of the component parts of the material for making the cement; whether the clay should be London, and fresh dug from the earth, or made moister by tamping? What sort and quality of sand is to be used? And as to the oil, whether raw linseed or boiled, or any other sort? And then, as to the best mode of amalgamation? In doing which you will much oblige a subscriber from the beginning, and

Your most obedient servant,

PLASTIC.

PAINTINGS FROM THE CARTOONS.—Already instances have occurred to shew the advantages that may arise out of the cartoon exhibition. Mr. Stephanoff has received a commission to paint a picture of the subject of his cartoon at the price of 200 guineas. We believe other cases of the kind have occurred.—*Art Union.*

LIST OF ENGLISH PATENTS.

(From the Repertory of Patent Inventions.)

Robert Ramrose, of Ipswich, iron-founder; Charles May, of the same place, iron-founder; Arthur Biddell, of Playford, Suffolk, farmer; and William Worby, of Ipswich, foreman to Messrs. T. R. and A. Ransome, for improvements in machinery and apparatus used for ploughing and scarifying land, and for raking; and improvements in machinery and apparatus used for thrashing, cutting, and grinding, for agricultural purposes; and improvements in the construction of whippers—Sealed July 15, 1843. (Six months.)

James Overend, of Liverpool, Gent., for improvements in printing fabrics with metallic matters, and in finishing silks and other fabrics.—Sealed July 15, 1843. (Six months.)

William Garnett Taylor, of Halliwell, Lancashire, cotton spinner, for certain improvements in machinery for spinning cotton and other fibrous substances; and in preparing and dressing yarn for weaving.—Sealed July 15, 1843. (Six months.)

James Gollop Beater, of St. Clement's-place, Worcester, tailor, for certain improvements in the fastenings for trousers-straps, and in fastenings for wearing apparel generally.—Sealed July 20, 1843. (Six months.)

Henry Austin, of Hatton Garden, civil engineer, for improvements in the construction of water-closets.—Sealed July 20, 1843. (Six months.)

Charles Bertram, of the Borough of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Esq., for an improved mastic or cement, which may be also employed as an artificial stone; and for coating metals and other substances.—Sealed July 20, 1843. (Six months.)

Joseph Harvey, of James-street, Buckingham Gate, Gent., for improvements in the construction of two-wheeled carriages.—Sealed July 20, 1843. (Six months.)

William Daniell, of Abercarn, Monmouth, tin-plate manufacturer, for improvements in rolling iron into plates or sheets.—Sealed July 22, 1843. (Six months.)

James Nasmyth, of Patricroft, near Manchester, engineer, for certain improvements in machinery or apparatus for driving piles, part or parts of which improvements are applicable also to forging and stamping metals and other substances.—Sealed July 24, 1843. (Six months.)

Joseph Daniel Davidge, of Greville-street, Hatton Garden, machinist, for improvements in manufacturing certain materials as substitutes for whalebone, applicable to various useful purposes, and in the machinery for effecting the same.—Sealed July 24, 1843. (Six months.)

David Napier, of York-road, Lambeth, Surrey, engineer, for improvements applicable to boilers, or apparatus for generating steam.—Sealed July 25, 1843. (Six months.)

Frederick Lewis Westensholz, of 151, Regent-street, merchant, for a double-centered steam-engine.—Sealed July 25, 1843. (Six months.)

Samuel Faulkner, of Manchester, cotton spinner, for certain improvements in the machinery or apparatus for carding cotton and other fibrous substances.—Sealed July 25, 1843. (Six months.)

Edward Eyre, of Poole's Hotel, London, Gent., for certain improvements in railways, and in the machinery or apparatus employed thereon.—Sealed July 25, 1843. (Six months.)

William Crofton Mont, of Upper Berkeley-street, Marylebone, surgeon, for a method of obtaining aerial locomotion.—Sealed July 26, 1843. (Six months.)

IRISH PATENTS.

To William Newton, of the Office for Patents, 66, Chancery-lane, in the county of Middlesex, civil engineer, for certain improvements in the preparation of paper designed for bank notes, government documents, bills, cheques, deeds, and other purposes, wherein protection and safety from forgery or counterfeits are required.—Sealed July 5, 1843. Communication.

Robert Faraday, of Wardour-street, Soho, in the county of Middlesex, gas-fitter, for improvements in ventilating gas-burners, and burners for consuming oil, tallow, or other matters.—Sealed July 10, 1843. Communication.

Gregory Seale Walters, of Coleman-street, in the city of London, Merchant, for improvement in the manufacture of chlorine and chlorides, and in obtaining the oxides and peroxides of manganese in the residuary liquids of such manufacture.—Sealed July 10, 1843. Communication.